It's been an interesting fall, with all the elections and the fourth wave of Covid. The Conveners Luncheon was held at the University Club on the patio and it was nice to see so many able to attend. Over the past few months I have enjoyed several of the interest groups to which I belong. Walking with Waggers, Drawing Together and Lunching Out. As noted in the newsletter we have booked several events at the University Club for 2022 assuming AHS guidelines will allow large groups to meet in-doors. We will keep you posted.

Below is an update on some of the activities of the Executive over the past few months.

FACEBOOK
FWC now has a Facebook page for “Members Only”. I would like to thank Marilyn Steier for setting this up. It is simple to join if you are on FB. Click on “Friends”, search for “Fwc UofA” and send a friend request. Yes, it is really that simple! We encourage you to post pictures, share information about your projects and interact with other members. Only members in good standing with the club will be allowed access so please post pictures of your groups and other interesting info.
COVID GUIDELINES
COVID guidelines for the FWC are attached to this email for your information. Basically, the requirements to attend any in-person event are that you are maintaining your vaccine status. Do Not Attend if you are feeling sick or unwell. Event hosts may provide hand sanitizer but are not required to.

MEMBERS’ SURVEY
A survey will be sent out by email, in December. The purpose is to collect information on changes to the membership criteria, special interest groups and events. I encourage you to participate, as your feedback will assist the Executive to steer the club in the direction the majority of members support.

You will soon receive your 2021-2022 Member Directory, courtesy of Tricia Unsworth, Directory Editor, and Patricia Petersen, Membership wizard. Please remember to not throw away your old directories but to shred them, as they contain private information.

Thank you all for participating and supporting our wonderful club!

Keep safe my friends and have a Happy Holiday.

Donna Gorday  
President 2021-2022
CAN YOU HELP?

Are you interested in learning more about the Faculty Women’s Club and helping to shape its future? There is a spot for you on the FWC Executive! Becoming a board member is a wonderful way to contribute to the continuing vibrancy of our club, while working with a friendly and enthusiastic team of women.

The FWC depends entirely on volunteers to keep running smoothly. Most board positions run for two years, so the personnel is always changing. A few positions are still open for the 2021-2022 year:

(i) Program Committee (2 positions) to plan events of general interest that gather the whole of the membership together, and
(ii) Treasurer to maintain accurate financial records for the FWC.

If you would like more information about any of these positions or about the Executive in general, please contact Donna Gorday at president.fwc@gmail.com. Your club needs you!

SEASON’S GREETINGS
From your Executive

Warm wishes for a happy holiday for all.
May the coming year be full of peace and joy.

Here are some planned events to look forward to in 2022. These events are subject to the COVID restrictions in place at the time of the scheduled event.

FWC Zoom Talk – Exploring Lilian Green’s Life from India to Edmonton
Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2022
Time: 7:00-8:15 p.m.

Long time FWC member Lilian Green passed away October 30th 2020, one day shy of her 96th birthday. Born and raised in India, Lilian lived a full and interesting life. Anne Green, Lilian's daughter, will join us through Zoom to explore Lilian's life from India to Edmonton. It will be a fascinating story. More details on how to join in with Zoom will be available early January.
Celebration Coffee Morning
February 22, 2022

**Why:** To celebrate long-standing members (25 years of FWC membership or more)

**Who:** Long-standing members and all regular members are welcome to attend this complimentary event held annually to honour and celebrate our members of long standing.

**When:** On Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Where:** University Club, University of Alberta

**Parking:** At the University Club or the Windsor Parking Lot. Parking is unfortunately not free.

**If you require – or are willing to provide – a ride to/from the event:** let Donna Gorday know **BY January 15, 2022.** Contact her with your home address and phone number ([president.fwc@gmail.com](mailto:president.fwc@gmail.com)) or by phone as per the directory.

**What:** There will be tea, coffee, and sweet treats for everyone to enjoy!

**If you would like to attend the event:** please RSVP directly to Donna ([president.fwc@gmail.com](mailto:president.fwc@gmail.com)) as soon as possible and **by February 15 at the latest.**
Spring Luncheon

**When:** Wednesday, March 30, 2022, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
**Where:** University of Alberta University Club
**Cost:** TBD

It may be in the future, but pencil in our FWC Spring Luncheon at the University Club. Enjoy a lunch (set menu) and a talk by Katherine Koller who will provide *An Introduction to Indigenous Literature.*

Katherine Koller writes for stage, screen and page. Her first plays, *Cowboy Boots and a Corsage* and *Magpie*, were for CBC radio. Her full-length stage plays include her Alberta Land Works Trilogy: *Coal Valley, The Seed Savers* and Alberta Playwriting Competition winner, *Last Chance Leduc.*

Her web series, about Edmonton youth changing their world, is at [https://sustainablemeyg.ca/](https://sustainablemeyg.ca/). *Art Lessons,* her novel, was a Finalist for the Edmonton Book Prize and the Alberta Readers’ Choice Award. *Winning Chance,* her story collection, won a 2020 High Plains Book Award and the Exporting Alberta Award. Her flash fiction won a Strands International Competition in 2021. Katherine teaches in the English and Film Department at the University of Alberta. [www.katherinekoller.ca](http://www.katherinekoller.ca)

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**Remember to mark your calendars for the 2022 Annual General Meeting,**

**DATE:** Monday, May 2, 2022.
**TIME:** 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Katia Tonkin, Professor Emeritus, University of Alberta, Medical Oncologist and Cannabis Specialist.

*More information will be available in the FWC April newsletter*
MEMBERSHIP and DIRECTORY REPORT

We hope everyone is well and enjoyed the wonderful sunny fall we had. The Holiday Season will soon be here and we can only hope that we will be able to see our families this year.

The registration process went well this year with the online form and we were happy to assist anyone without computers or those needing some help with registration. There was no fee this year (2021-22) but that will change for the 2022-23 year as we begin having more membership activities.

This year we have 153 members, including 3 new ladies. We only lost about 20 members, for various reasons, so we think we have done remarkably well despite the pandemic causing several interest groups to be on hold or virtual. Since we are a social club, it is hard to maintain interest when we can’t socialize. We congratulate those groups which have found ways to carry on over the past 18 months.

The new directory is being finalized to include dates for 2022 events and we will mail out paper copies in early December to those who requested them. A PDF version will be emailed to others around the same time. Thank you for your patience.

Happy Holidays
Pat and Tricia
Pat Petersen – Membership
Tricia Unsworth – Directory

MEMBER NEWS

A passing...

Margaret Eileen Tait - Eileen passed away peacefully on November 6, 2021 in Edmonton, Alberta at the age of 83. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, Eileen studied nursing at the Victoria Infirmary before marrying Robert James Tait and immigrating to Edmonton in 1962. Committed to learning all her life, she graduated with a BScN in 1980, read constantly and loved travel and the arts. Warm and generous, Eileen made lasting friendships wherever she went, and in her last weeks continued to be a gracious hostess to her visitors. Eileen’s obituary can be found in the November 13, 2021 Edmonton Journal.

Eileen was an active member of the FWC for over 50 years. Most recently she was involved in the Knitting interest group. She is fondly remembered as a great hostess whose wonderful Scottish shortbread and Welsh cakes will be missed.
Interest Groups

All interested members are encouraged to contact the conveners of any of the groups they wish to join.

Subject to the COVID restrictions in place at the time of a scheduled event, all Active Interest Groups are encouraged to read and follow the COVID guidelines when meeting in-person.

Interest Groups on Hiatus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group Name</th>
<th>Convener</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mall Walkers</td>
<td>Kay Quon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge - Duplicate</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridge - Mixed</td>
<td>Lorna Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cookbook Club</td>
<td>Sandra Wiebe</td>
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<tr>
<td>French Conversation</td>
<td>Sarah Nyland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fun and Board Games</td>
<td>Rachel Frey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Golfing</td>
<td>Bonnie Austen (On hiatus until late Spring)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gourmet Dining</td>
<td>Bonnie Austen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Movies</td>
<td>Mualla Berksoy-Boluk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play Reading</td>
<td>Orla Ryan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Interest Group Updates

Book Discussion – Afternoon

Conveners: Cathy de Frece and Christine Forth  
Meets: Fourth Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m.

The afternoon book group met in Bev's lovely backyard in September, but since then we have met monthly by Zoom, and will continue to do so until further notice. The books we have been enjoyed since September are:

- The Woman who Stole my Life, by Marion Keyes (September)  
- The Golden Hour, by Beatriz Williams (October)  
- The Girl with the Louding Voice, by Abi Dare (November)

The following books are scheduled for the rest of the year at our Zoom meetings:

- The Pull of the Stars, by Emma Donaghue (January)  
- The Idiot, by Elif Batuman (February)  
- The Guest Book, by Sara Blake (March)  
- The Smallest Light in the Universe, by Sara Seager (April)

In May, we hope to invite a guest author to our Zoom meeting.

We are also planning a New Year gathering on January 6 at the University Club, where we will do our annual book exchange. We remain hopeful that by June, we will be able to have our usual outdoor year-end potluck when we select the books for the following year.

Book Discussion – Evening

Convenner: Karen Bain  
Meets: Third Thursday of each month, 7:30 – 9:30 pm in members’ homes, (or via zoom when required)

Due to the ongoing, unpredictable nature of Covid-19, we decided to start our year via Zoom. As the fourth wave washed over Edmonton, we were reinforced for our prudence. Furthermore, attendance has been excellent!

In September Laura Steadward introduced and led our discussion of The Push by Ashley Audrain. The book brought out many challenges of parenting, marriage, self-doubt, and emotional stress when a child is testing the boundaries of appropriate social behaviour. A good choice for a group that enjoys thinking and giving opinions about what they are reading!

October’s book was The Wolf: A true story of survival and obsession in the west, by Nate Blakeslee. You may remember that wolves were moved from Alberta to Yellowstone Park following a period of no wolves remaining there due to over-hunting. Sylvia Kernahan guided our discussion and asked Marg Reine, who is knowledgeable about wolves, to join us. A brief YouTube, How Wolves Change Rivers describes this issue in an interesting manner.

The November book, Magpie Murders, by Anthony Horowitz, was introduced by Donna Gorday. A rather complicated book, by a well-known author, promoted a variety of opinions – the indicator of a stimulating book club!
In December we will read *The White Tiger* by Arvind Adiga, with a discussion led December 16 by Katia Tonkin. Readers may have seen the film earlier this year, available on Netflix.

We have four more selected books and are pleased to have new members and/or guests join us.

University of Alberta Writer-in-Residence, Ifoema Chinwuba, will join us March 17 for a discussion of her work. The selection will be confirmed closer to that date.

If you wish further information, the remaining list of books for the year, or to be included in upcoming meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30, please contact Karen Bain kebain@telus.net

**Couples Who Cook**

*Convener:* Peggi Ferguson-Pell  
*Meets:* Normally between six and eight Saturday evenings during the year in members’ homes, but this year we might go a little virtual – stay tuned!

**You are invited!**

It’s been a weird year and a half for sure but – hopefully – there is some form of normal (or new normal) coming down the road for everyone as we vax, vax and booster our way toward 2022. For everyone who has been part of, or thought about joining, or are new to *Couples Who Cook*, I want you to know that we are here for you and are ready to plan fun activities – Zoom dinners, cooking classes, trying your hand at a new cuisine, in-person dinners, or a great idea **YOU** have for us to share food together. There’s no pressure, you can participate when/if you want to – but please remember we are always happy to have you (and your cooking partner – spouse, friend, whoever) join us. If you are not receiving our CWC emails and would like to keep in touch, I invite you to please email or call me. Peggy looks forward to hearing from you!

**Creative Writing**

*Convener:* Marilyn Gaa  
*Meets:* First Tuesday of each month at 12:30 pm (with bag lunch) in members’ homes (or via Zoom as required)

The Creative Writing Interest Group, now in its eleventh year, has continued to be active with monthly meetings to share our work and provide mutual support to each other.

After ten years, Christine Forth is taking a break from convening this group. Marilyn Gaa has kindly agreed to be the new convener. Marilyn has been a member of this group since its inception, and will do a wonderful job as convener. Christine will be taking the lead on developing our new anthology.
Cross Country Ski

Conveners: Karen Doucet
Meets: Every Tuesday and Friday at 11 a.m.

Make this the year you try Cross-Country skiing! 2022 is also an Olympic year, so maybe take that as a little extra motivation!

We are building on last year’s success as a new interest group. Last year we stayed mostly in town, on the very accessible trails at Victoria & Riverside golf courses, Hawrelak Park and Gold Bar Park. We ended the season by driving out to Devon, and certainly plan to do that again, as the setting and the tracks were beautiful.

We generally meet at 11am and ski for about an hour. Tuesdays and Fridays seem to be the best days. Weekend times can be added if there is interest.

We need enough snow before we can start! We also don’t go if it’s too cold! (We can blame equipment failure for the mild weather preference, but also, we don’t really like to be too cold…) An email is sent out at the beginning of the week, confirming the park and trails, day & time where we plan to meet.

If you’d like to join us, please email me at karenlizdoucet@gmail.com. I will add you to the email list. All abilities are welcome!
**Drawing Together**

*Convener:* Margot Wanke

Our members are continuing to draw at home and submitting their drawing, based on monthly suggestions, via email to the convener who continues to put borders around the drawings which are then sent to the whole group.
**Garden Group**

*Conveners:* Pat Petersen and Marcia Bercov  
*Meets:* At least once a month in the “growing season,” days and times vary depending on the event

The garden group has met all summer, visiting many different gardens in the Edmonton Area. Since our last submission we have been to the Muttart Conservatory, to the dahlia garden at the St. Albert Botanic Garden and in October we had a beautiful walk at Bunchberry Meadows on a glorious fall day. We were able to sit together for a bagged lunch after our walk. Gardens have been put to bed for the season but we hope to get another outing at the Muttart for the poinsettia and holiday display and if people are comfortable, a holiday lunch at the café.

![Garden Group Image]

**Knitting**

*Conveners:* Linda Capjack and Linda Sorensen  
*Meets:* First Monday of each month from October to May, 1:30 – 3:30 pm

The knitting group continues to meet virtually on or near the first Monday of the month. Most members were not comfortable meeting in person yet. But we have quite wonderful chats via email about what everyone is doing and share pictures of projects we are working on. We just recently lost one of our coordinators and expert knitters. Eileen Tait passed away on November 6, 2021. She was a great hostess and will be missed. We will also miss her wonderful Scottish shortbread and Welsh cakes. New members wishing to join our “close-knit” group are always welcome. Included here are some current projects in progress and finished projects. Enjoy!
Lunching Out

Conveners: Eunice Barron and Laura Steadward
Meets: Third Wednesday of the month, 11:30 am, October to June at various restaurants

Luckily, our group has been able to meet in person. After going to the Patio at the University Club for the summer and fall, Eunice decided it was time to venture out. So we started with a visit to MIMI's, the Belgravia Hub and Rebel. Attendance runs around 16 for each event. During these Covid times it has been such a joy to share the love and laughter with our members.
**Reading Circle – General**

*Convener:* Lorene Everett Turner

Each year we get an interesting list of books suggested by our members and then vote on them. For the past two years we’ve done this by email. Although we missed getting together in person, it has worked well during Covid and we enjoyed getting a new book to read each month without having to go shopping!

*Fight Night* by Miriam Toews (2021)

*The Madness of Crowds* by Louise Penny (2021)

*Cloud Cuckoo Land* by Anthony Doerr (2021)
  - publication date is September 28, 2021

*The Winter Wives* by Linden MacIntyre (2021)

*The Rose Code*, by Kate Quinn (2021)

*The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner (2021)

*The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel (2020)

*How to Pronounce Knife* by Souvankhan Thammavongsa (2020)

*The Almost Wife* by Gail Anderson-Dargatz (2021)
  - Author of the *Cure for Death by Lightning* - a Giller prize finalist

*A Town Called Solace* by Mary Lawson (2021)
  - long listed for the 2021 Booker prize

*White Fragility: Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* by Dr. Robin DiAngelo

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**Reading Circle – General**

*Convener:* Orla Ryan

Instead of our usual meeting at the beginning of the year during which we discuss suggested books over tea, coffee and goodies, this year we did it all by e-mail. Not quite as good, but we got the ball rolling and started our circulation of books in October. There are 11 members in the group so we will all be receiving a book a month until August. This is the list of titles and authors and we are reading this year.

*The Book of Two Ways* by Jodi Picoult

*Leap of Faith: Memoirs of an Unexpected Life* by Queen Noor

*Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman

*Em* by Kim Thuy

*The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles

*The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes

*A Town Called Solace* by Mary Lawson

*Fight Night* by Miriam Toews

*Off the Record* by Peter Mansbridge

*Cloud Cuckoo Land* by Anthony Doerr
Reading Circle – Mystery Books

Convener: Jean Frost
Meets: Once a year in the convener’s home, usually in September

This is the list of titles and authors and we are reading this year.

*The Historians* by Cecelia Ekbakk
*Blacktop Wasteland* by S A Cosby
*The Heron’s Cry* by Ann Cleeve
*The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman
*The Madness of Crowds* by Louise Penny
*Trace Elements* by Donna Leon
*Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman
*The Lost Man* by Jane Harper
*Death on Darby Island* by Alice Walsh

Tennis

Convener: Tricia Unsworth (see directory for contact details)
Meets: May to end of September outdoors at various Southside community courts, usually on Mondays but scheduled to suit players’ availability

October to end April, Mondays, 1:00-2:00pm indoors at Saville Centre (Subject to change due to possible Covid restrictions and having sufficient players in the group)

The Tennis group will start up again in January, playing indoors at the Saville Centre from **1-2pm on Mondays**. No need to be a Saville Centre member, just pay a court fee of $10 per person when you play. Current provincial regulations do require you to provide proof of vaccination.

We are always open to more ladies joining our group for a game of fun, intermediate tennis. If you are interested do please contact Tricia Unsworth (details in the FWC members' directory).
Walking Group

Conveners: Margot Wanke and Linda Weiner
Meets: Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. at various outdoor locations

So far this season we have enjoyed pleasant weather on our regular Thursday morning walks. But now, towards the end of November, winter weather has arrived. On November 18th we walked in snow for the first time. Thus, the time for dressing warmly, putting on Yaktrax, and relying on walking poles for greater balance is here.

There is always room for new members in our group.
The FWC would like to provide some guidance for members regarding Covid 19 safety precautions. We have provided these suggestions based on the University of Alberta protocols. Note that the Covid 19 situation seems to be in constant flux, as are protocols. Please use your best and safest judgement both for yourself and others!

**VACCINATIONS**

The University of Alberta has established a vaccination self-declaration process and a rapid testing program to support safety across campuses this fall.

The FWC will not be requiring a declaration, nor providing rapid testing. We do however, respectfully request that only fully (double) vaccinated members attend FWC in person gatherings. If you are not fully vaccinated, for whatever reason, please request to attend electronically (by Zoom if applicable) or ask to have the convenor to provide updates or minutes regarding activities and events in your interest club.

If you are feeling unwell we request that you do not attend meetings or events in person.

**MASKS**

Currently, masks are required in all public indoor areas on U of A campuses, with few exceptions.

Similarly, the FWC requires the use of masks for indoor gatherings. If members are sharing food and therefore masks are removed, proper distancing (2M) should be maintained as much as possible. If distancing and mask use are not possible, please consider virtual meetings, written communication, or outside events.

**HAND SANITIZER**

For larger club events hand sanitizer will be provided.

For special interest groups it is recommended, but not required, that the host provide sanitizer for members.